

Tips for Haj

Praise be to Allah who has given us the Hidaayat, Strength and the Means to undertake this wonderful journey of **HAJ**.

The following are some guidelines, which we felt we would like to share with you, and we hope, it will be of assistance to you, Insha-Allah.

SALAAH

The following is meant in particular for the ladies who will, for the first time in your lives encounter the performing of your FARAZ SALAAH with JAMAAT in the Haram.

FAJAR SALAAH:-

1. After the azaan, perform your two rakaats sunnat as you normally do.
2. Wait for the Iqaamat (when the Muazzin will call for the commencing of the Faraz Salaah with Jamaat.)
3. After the Iqaamat, the Imaam will say something in Arabic. All he is saying is to make your safs (rows) straight.
4. After making the rows, make your intention as follows:- "I am performing two rakaats Faraz of Fajar Salaah for Allah **BEHIND THE IMAAM** facing the Qibla."
5. The Imaam will say Allahu-Akbar aloud, which you must now follow by raising your hands and saying Allahu-Akbar silently and then tying your hands.
6. When the Imaam says Allahu-Akbar, the Muazzin will also call out the Takbir. This is quite normal and there is nothing you have to be concerned about or think what should you do. You just follow the Imaam.
7. After saying Allahu-Akbar and tying your hands you must read Thanaa (Subhana-Kalla-Huma) SILENTLY.
8. After reciting Thanaa you must not read anything else.
9. The Imaam will then read LOUDLY Alhumdu and a Surah. During this time you read nothing. You might notice the person standing next to you reciting away, thus making you think that you should also be reciting something. NO you should NOT be reciting anything. You are not doing anything wrong. Just listen and concentrate on what the Imaam is reciting.
10. At the end of Alhumdu, you say Aameen silently. You will hear others saying Aameen loudly. Do not worry about that, you say it silently.
11. At the end of the Surah, the Imaam will call Takbir and go into Ruku. Remember the Muazzin will call after the Imaam whilst going through ALL the postures, but you follow the Imaam. Go into Ruku, recite Subhana Rabial Azeem, as you normally do in your Salaah.
12. The Imaam will then recite Sami Allah Huliman Hamida, you stand up from Ruku and recite Rabbana Lakalhamd. You will now notice a pause by the Imaam, he will not go down immediately into Sajdaa as we are used to. This is normal and you shall remain like that without reciting anything till the Imaam calls the Takbir and goes down into Sajdaa which you then follow.
13. In the Sajdaa you will recite Subhana Rabial Aalaa, as you normally do. You will have pauses during all the postures, so don't be in a rush, and enjoy the Salaah.
14. The Imaam will then complete the first rakaat and in the second rakaat he will recite Alhumdu and a Surah LOUDLY whilst you remain silent without reading anything.
15. The Imaam will then complete the second rakaat in the same manner as the first.
16. In the Qaidah (sitting) position, you now recite Tashahud, Durood-e-Ibrahim and dua silently, as you normally do.
17. The Imaam will then make Salaam which you follow and complete the Salaah.
18. After the Salaam, we (the men) are used to the Imaam making a short dua. Here, there is no collective dua made by the Imaam after ALL the Faraz Salaah. However, you should make your own dua.
19. After the Faraz of Fajar, there is NO Salaah to be read, as this is Makrooh time for Salaah. Once again you might notice others reading Salaah and you will think you also should be reading something. NO you should not be reading any Salaah and you are not doing anything wrong.

20. Now, you can remain seated and make Zikar, read tasbeeh and wait a while. 95% of the time, after ALL the Faraz Salaah, there is Janaaza Salaah. The Muazzin will announce this, in Arabic of course, but know that it is Janaaza Salaah. Yes, Men as well as Ladies can perform the Janaaza Salaah. How to perform Janaaza Salaah will be explained later.
21. After the Janaaza Salaah, as mentioned earlier, there is NO Salaah to be performed after the Fajar Salaah till after the time of Ishraq. So you can either sit and read Quran, make zikar or go back to your hotel.
22. **SAJDAH TILAAWAH** :- This is when the Imaam recites a Surah in which there is a Sajdah. Whilst reciting the Surah, the Imaam will then call takbir and go straight into Sajdah, you follow likewise. Say Allahu-Akbar silently and go straight into Sajdah, recite Subhana Rabial Aala as normal. The Imaam will then call the takbir and stand up. You follow likewise, say the Takbir silently, stand up and tie your hands. The Imaam will then continue reciting the Surah after which he will proceed with the Salaah in the normal way. Sajdah Tilaawah normally happens in the Fajar Salaah on Fridays.
23. **NOTE**:- When the Imaam call the Takbir to go through all the postures, you must also recite the Takbir SILENTLY and go through all the postures.

ZOHAR SALAAH:-

1. After the azaan for the Zohar Salaah you shall perform the 4 Rakaats Sunnats as you normally do.
2. When the Iqamat goes for the Faraz Salaah you stand in your row and now make the intention similar as the Fajar Salaah knowing that now you are performing your Zohar Salaah.
3. This Salaah is a SILENT Salaah.
4. After the Imaam makes the Takbir, which you follow, read the Thanaa and then you remain silent.
5. The Imaam, after making the Takbir, will read Alhumdu and a Surah SILENTLY. During this time you read nothing. Once again you may notice the person next to you reciting something and you may think that you have to read something also. NO you DO NOT have to read anything and you are not doing anything wrong.
6. After completing the Surah, the Imaam will call Takbir and go into Ruku, which you follow and continue with the remainder of the Salaah in the same manner as the Fajar Salaah, knowing now that you are performing FOUR rakaats of Zohar Salaah.
7. The reciting by the Imaam of Alhumdu and the Surah in this Salaah is all Silent.
8. After the completion of the Faraz Salaah and maybe the Janaaza Salaah, you will perform the Sunnat and Nafil Salaah as you normally do.

ASR SALAAH:-

1. This Salaah is identical to the Zohar Salaah.
2. It is a SILENT Salaah.
3. After the Azaan you perform the 4 Rakaats Sunnat as normal.
4. Then the Faraz Salaah with Jamaat you perform in the same manner as having performed the Zohar Salaah. Remember your intention will be for Asr Salaah.
5. After the Faraz Salaah of Asr, and maybe the Janaaza Salaah, there is NO Salaah to be performed as it is MAKROOH TIME.

MAGHRIB SALAAH:-

1. After the Azaan for the Magrib Salaah there is a waiting period of approximately 5 minutes. They do not perform the Maghrib Salaah immediately after the Azaan as we do. During this time you will notice others making Salaah and you may think that I also have to make Salaah. No, you do not have to make any Salaah and you are not doing anything wrong. Make Zikar and wait.
2. When the Iqamat goes, Jamaat will commence in the same way as the other Salaah. Don't forget your intention for Maghrib Salaah.
3. After the Thanaa the Imaam will recite Alhumdu and a Surah LOUDLY whilst you do not read anything.
4. The remainder of the rakaat will be performed in the same manner as the other Salaah

5. The second rakaat will be performed as the first, LOUDLY.
6. The third rakaat, the Imaam will recite SILENTLY, whilst you do not read anything.
7. The remainder of the rakaat will be completed as the other Salaah.
8. After the Faraz Salaah and maybe the Janaaza Salaah, you perform your Sunnat and Nafil as normal.
9. It is quite common that many people stay on in the Haram from Maghrib through to Esha. This gives one lots of time to make Zikar, Tilaawat of The Quran and also you can perform Nafil Salaah e.g. Salaatut Taubaah, Salaatul Haajat, Salaatus Shukr, etc. etc. or you can make a Tawaaf. (**NOTE**;- you can make Tawaaf anytime you want.)

ESHA SALAAH:-

1. After the Azaan for the Esha Salaah, you perform your 4 Rakaats Sunnats as normal.
2. By now you will have a jist of the LOUD and the SILENT part of the Salaah.
3. Esha, the first two rakaats are LOUD whilst the second two rakaats are SILENT.
4. Don't forget your intention being for Esha Salaah. But do remember that whilst the Imaam is reciting Alhumdu and a Surah, be it Loud or Silent, during that time you recite nothing irrespective of whether the person next to you is reciting or not.
5. The remainder of the Salaah is as normal.
6. After the Faraz Salaah and maybe the Janaaza Salaah you perform your Sunnats, Nafil and Witr as normal.

JUMMAH SALAAH:-

The time for Jummah Salaah is the same as that of Zohar Salaah. The Jummah Salaah consists of 14 Rakaats as follows:-

4 Rakaats Sunnatul Muakkada
 2 Rakaats Faraz
 4 Rakaats Sunnatul Muakkadah
 2 Rakaats Sunnatul Muakkadah
 2 Rakaats Nafil

1. After the Azaan you perform the 4 Rakaats Sunnat.
2. The Imaam will then make Salaam. Then the Muazzin will make a second Azaan after which the Imaam will stand and deliver the Khutba. This will be in Arabic. Even though we do not understand Arabic it is NOT permissible to recite, make Zikar, perform Salaah or to talk by even just greeting someone during the Khutba. It is WAAJIB to listen attentively to the Khutba.
3. After the two Khutbas, the Iqamat will be made and then the two Rakaats Faraz for Jummah will be performed in the same way as the Fajar Salaah was made.
4. After the Faraz and maybe the Janaaza Salaah you perform your Sunnats and Nafil of Jummah Salaah.
5. Ladies please note that you are now performing Jummah and not Zohar Salaah. Your intentions should be likewise.

NOTE:- THE ABOVE IS ACCORDING TO THE HANAFI MAZHAB

These are a few guidelines to performing FARAZ SALAAH in the Haram with Jamaat. May Allah give us all the insight and true understanding and may he accept our Ibaadat. Aameen.

NOTES

1. Whilst performing Salaah, people will walk in front of you. Do not worry about that. It does not affect your Salaah in any way. This applies to these two Masjids only.
2. You will see others doing different things whilst performing their Salaah. This does not mean you are doing something wrong. It just might be the different Mazhabs. Do as you have been taught.
3. In Masjid un Nabawi there are carpets all the time to make your Salaah on. In the Haram in Makkah, they do lay out carpets to make Salaah on. However, about two weeks before HAJ they do not lay out any carpets. Therefore it is suggested you buy yourself a Musallah otherwise you will be making your Salaah on the marble floor.
4. To recite Ayatul Kursi after every Faraz Salaah is of very great benefit.
5. Recite TASBEEH-E-FAATIMAH after all the Faraz Salaah – 33 times Subhanallah 33 times Alhumdulillah – 34 times Allahu Akbar.
6. Between Maghrib and Bed Time read SURAH YASEEN – SURATUS SAJDAH – SURATUL WAAQIA – SURATUL MULK.
7. Points 4, 5, & 6 should not only be done whilst on Haj but all the time. Even when at home.

8. TAKBEER-E-TASHREEK

ALLAHU-AKBAR ALLAHU-AKBAR

LAA-ILAAHA IL-LAL-LAA-HU WAL-LAA-HU-AKBAR

ALLAHU-AKBAR WA-LIL-LAA-HIL HAMD.

It is Waajib for the men to recite this Takbeer aloud once after every Faraz Salaah starting after the Fajar Salaah on the 9th Zil-Haj and ending after the Faraz Salaah of Asr on the 13th Zil-Haj. For women it is Mustahab to recite this Takbeer silently after the Faraz Salaah.

NOTE: This Takbeer is not recited only whilst on Haj but is also during this period whilst at home.

SALAATUL JANAAZA

Praise be to Allah who has given us the Hidaayat, strength and means to undertake this wonderful journey of HAJ.

The following are some guidelines which we felt we would like to share with you and we hope, will be of assistance to you Insha-Allah.

In the pamphlet on Salaah with Jamaat we talked about Janaaza Salaah. As mentioned 95% or should we say 99% of the times after every Faraz Salaah there is Janaaza Salaah. Men as well as Ladies can perform Janaaza Salaah. The method of performing Janaaza Salaah is as follows:-

TWO things are FARAZ in Janaaza Salaah.

1. To recite "ALLAHU-AKBAR" four times.
2. QIYAAM – to perform the Janaaza Salaah standing. There is NO ruku, sajdah, etc.

The following intention is made:-

I am performing Janaazah Salaah for the sake of Allah and as a dua for the deceased.

The Imaam will then recite "Allahu-Akbar", which you follow. Raise your hands to the ears, say Allahu-Akbar (silently) and fold them as in Salaah. Now you recite Thanah (note the extra bit)

SUB HAANA KALLAA HUMMA WA BI HAMDIKA WA TABAA RAKAS MUKA WA TA AALA JAD DUKA WA JALLA THANAAUKA WA LA ILAHA GHAYRUK.

The Imaam will then recite "Allahu-Akbar" which you follow. But you DO NOT raise your hands to the ears, keep them folded, say Allahu-Akbar silently and now read Durood-e-Ibrahim:-

ALLAHUMMA SALLI ALA MUHAMMADIN WA ALA AALI MUHAMMADIN KAMA SAL LAITA ALA IBRAHIMA WA ALA AALI IBRAHIMA INNAKA HAMIDUM MAJEED.

ALLAHUMA BARIK ALA MUHAMMADIN WA ALA AALI MUHAMMADIN KAMA BARAK TA ALA IBRAHIMA WA ALA AALI IBRAHIMA INNAKA HAMIDUM MAJEED.

The Imaam will then recite "Allahu-Akbar", which you follow. But you DO NOT raise your hands to the ears, keep them folded, say Allahu-Akbar silently and now read Dua:-

ALLAH HUM MAGH FIR LI HAIY YINA WA MAIY YITI NA WA SHA HIDI NA WA GHA IBI NA WA SAGHEE RINA WA KABEE RINA WA THAKA RINA WA UN THANA ALLAH HUMMA MAN AH YAI TAHU MIN NA FA AH YIHI ALAL ISLAM WA MAN TAWAF FAI TAHU MIN NA FATAWAF FAHU ALAL IMAAN.

The Imaam will then recite "Allahu-Akbar" which you follow. But you DO NOT raise your hands to the ears, keep them folded, say Allahu-Akbar silently. Now the Imaam will make Salaam as one does when completing Salaah. The Imaam will only call out one Salaam. You recite Salaam but make it to your right and Salaam to your left as we do in our daily Salaah. Note, you will do the Salaam whilst still standing. After the second Salaam the Janaaza Salaah is over.

Once again, during the Janaaza Salaah you will notice others next to you doing different things, like raising their hands after every Takbir. Do not worry about the person next to you. Just follow the above and you are doing right. You will notice that sometimes there are more than one Mayyit. What now? Don't worry, one Salaah counts for all the Mayyits.

HELPFUL SUGGESTIONS

1. You may be making Kafnis or Kurtas for this journey. Make a top pocket with a zip, reason being, when you get there, always keep your hotel card with you. You never know when you may require it. You may meet others who will give you their details as to where they are staying etc.etc. Also make a side pocket with a zip in which you can carry some money or other valuables.
2. Make yourself a shoe bag that you can sling over your shoulder. Thus leaving your hands free. Whenever you go to the Haram, you put your shoes in the shoe bag and carry it with you. **DO NOT** leave your shoes in the boxes provided as you may not find them there when you return. Make a couple of small bags to carry your pebbles in.
3. Make a jugdaan in which you can carry your Kitaabs, notes, etc. etc.
4. Take with you a copy of your Islamic marriage certificate, 2 passport size photos, 2 ID size photos. (colour) You may be asked for it whilst there. If you are taking your daughter, get a letter from your Moulana certifying that you are her Mahram. You will also require the above for your visa application.
5. Mark your passport for easy identification.
6. It is advisable to take a pair of shoes that is (a) comfortable to walk with (b) is firm on your feet (c) easy to take off and put on quickly.
7. On your plane journey, take some food from home with you. You won't need it on the plane. You may need it at Jeddah airport or on your journey from Jeddah to Medina/Makkah. This all depends on how long everything takes.
8. If possible, collect a couple cans of drinks or juices from the plane. You may need this on your journey.
9. In Masjid un Nabawi and the Haram in Makkah there are drums filled with Zam Zam water for drinking. Usually there are five drums together. On all the drums there is Arabic writing in Black. One of the drums has an extra line written on it towards the top in BLUE. This drum has Zam Zam that is not cold. All the other drums have cold Zam Zam. We know it is very hot there and you want to drink cold water, but it is advisable not to drink it. Otherwise, drink as much as you can. We used to take empty bottles with us, fill it with Zam Zam and take it back to the room for **DRINKING** purposes. Please **DO NOT** abuse this water like throwing it down the drain. You can use this water to make Tea or Juice. But drink it all up and make sure nothing goes down the drain. Some hotels do provide Zam Zam.
10. If you are in a group, before setting off for Tawaaf, Salaah or pelting of the Jamaraat, etc. etc. make a Mashwira on a meeting point. In the event of the group getting separated, try and stay as couples, complete what you are doing and meet at the arranged meeting point A.S.A.P.
11. During the five days of HAJ, you may be told that women get into one bus whilst the men get into another bus. This is not advisable, as you may not meet at the same place. Always stay together and get onto the same bus.
12. During your Ibaadats you will notice others doing all sorts of things, which could lead to Bidat. You keep to what you have been taught and everything will be okay.
13. You may meet others who will say I did 5 or 10 Tawaafs today. **DO NOT PANIC.** You do what you can according to your strength, even if it is only 1 Tawaaf. Don't over do things. Your aim should be to make Ibaadat (quality not quantity) but at the same time to be fit for the 5 days of HAJ. Remember, even to sit and just look at the Kaaba is Thawaab. From the 1st Zil-Haj, start slowing down and build your energy so that during the 5 days of HAJ you are fit and can give as much as you can towards your Ibaadat.
14. Ladies, try and avoid crowded places. You will get pushed, shoved and touched by strange men. This can be very unnerving and upsetting. It gets worse just before HAJ. In these circumstances it is in YOUR interest to pray in the safety of your hotel room. Some hotels do provide Ibaadat Khaana's (separate one for men and ladies) where they make Jamaat. You can make your Salaah there.
15. Beware of conmen/ladies. They can give you very sad stories and can be very convincing. **DO NOT** fall for it. Most hotels provide Lillah boxes in which you can put your Lillah or Sadaqaa into. This will be distributed properly.

16. You will also see many handicapped people. Sometimes they make more money than you and I.
17. Reconfirm your return journey as soon as you can, either in Medina or Makkah. Make sure you get a print out with a reference number on it. A week before HAJ, re.check your booking again.
18. There are many terminals of departure. Get a print out of which terminal you are departing from. You may need it to show to the authorities en route to the airport.
19. A week before HAJ, start collecting 1 Riyal, 5 Riyal and 10 Riyal notes. (small change) This you may need when buying food in Mina or Arafat as they run out of change.
20. For the 5 days of HAJ take a Haji Mat, a Musallah, 2 bottles of water, (one for drinking and one for the toilet) couple of toilet rolls, juices, fruit, (not too much as you can buy it on the way) a small hand towel (for wuzu) and a medicine travel kit.
21. Because of the crowds, especially during the 5 days of HAJ, you might get shoved and pushed and in that mayhem you may lose a slipper. If you do, **DO NOT** bend to pick it up. Keep moving with the flow of the people until you get to a safe spot and then you will find hundreds of slippers lying around, put one on and carry on. You can always buy a new pair later.
22. Always be humble, be kind and be patient. "EVERYTHING COMES TO A PERSON WHO KNOWS HOW TO WAIT". Remember, this is a very good test on our Patience and Tolerance.
23. Do not be selfish and think of yourself only. Think **IKRAAM E MUSLIM**. Help others whenever and wherever possible, even in petty things like helping an old man or lady go down the escalators.
24. Make dua for yourself, your parents, husband/wife, children, tutors, relatives, friends, deceased, community, muslims of the country and the entire ummah of our beloved Prophet Muhammed (s.a.w.)

NOTE:-

This is from our experience and your experience could be different. We hope this will be beneficial to you. We make dua that Allah makes it easy for you. Aameen.
For more details, clarification or information on the above please do not hesitate to contact the writer on fessof@hotmail.com

NOTE:- THIS IS ACCORDING TO THE HANAFI MADHAB